

5 Claims

1. A menu system that includes a display means instructable to display game data to a number of available casino games playable by a player at an online casino

10 characterised in that

the display means is switchable between an overview mode and a detailed mode, the game data relating to any game that is displayed in the detailed mode being a superset of corresponding game data displayed for the same game in the overview mode, and the available games for which game data is displayed in the overview mode being a subset of the available games for which game data is displayed in the detailed mode.

2. A menu system as claimed in claim 1 which includes a categorisation facility operable to categorise the number of available casino games playable by the player into a number of different game categories.

20 3. A menu system as claimed in claim 2 in which any one of the casino games is categorisable into a plurality of different game categories.

25 4. A menu system as claimed in either one of claims 2 or 3 in which game data displayed by the display means is sorted by game category.

30 5. A menu system as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 4 in which the number of game categories in the detailed mode is greater than the number of game categories in the overview mode.

35 6. A menu system as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 5 in which the game categories in the overview mode include games that are preferred by the player, games that are recommended to the player for play, and games that are new to the online casino.

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7. A menu system as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 6 in which the game categories in the detailed mode include jackpot games offered by the online casino, table games offered by the online casino, video poker games offered by the online casino, slot games offered by the online casino, games that are preferred by the player and games that are recommended to the player for play.

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8. A menu system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which either one or both of the overview mode and the detailed mode display a login means capable of initiating a login process to authenticate the player for play at the casino.

9. A menu system as claimed in claim 8 in which the login means is a login icon activatable by the player

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10. A menu system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the overview mode displays a switching means capable of switching the display means to the detailed mode and the detailed mode displays a corresponding switching means capable of switching the display means to the overview mode.

11. A menu system as claimed in claim 10 in which the switching means is a switch icon activatable by the player.

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12. A menu system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the game data displayed for any game in the overview mode includes at least one attribute of the game.

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13. A menu system as claimed in claim 12 in which the at least one attribute of the game is the name of the game.

5 14. A menu system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the game data displayed in the detailed mode includes a plurality of different attributes of the game.

10 15. A menu system as claimed in claim 14 in which the plurality of different attributes includes any two or more of the name of the casino game, a size of a jackpot that can be won on the casino game, a plurality of different parameters of the casino game, a graphical representation of the game display, and a game status.

15 16. A menu system as claimed in claim 15 in which the game status is an active status when the casino game is ready for playing by the user, and an inactive status when the game is not ready for playing by the user.

20 17. A menu system as claimed in claim 16 in which the game is ready for playing by the user when the casino game has previously been downloaded from a gaming server.

25 18. A menu system as claimed in claim 2 in which the display means displays, in the detailed mode, a plurality of categories of games as tabbed categories.

30 19. A menu system as claimed in claim 18 in which one or more predetermined attributes of all games in any tabbed category is displayed by the display means in tabular columns in a scrollable window.

20. A menu system as claimed in claim 19 in which all the attributes of any particular game are displayed in an adjacent non-scrollable window when any attribute in the scrollable window is brought into focus by means of a pointing device.

5 21. A menu system as claimed in claim 6 that includes a selection means activatable by the player to add and remove any one or more of the casino games to or from the category of casino games that are preferred by the player.

10 22. A menu system as claimed in any one of claims 18 to 20 in which the display means is instructable to also display the game categories and the casino games in each category by means of a conventional fly-out menu display.

15 23. A method of operation of a menu system that includes the step of displaying game data to a number of available casino games available for play by the player at an online casino characterised in that the displayed game data is switchable between an overview mode and a detailed mode, the game data relating to any game that is displayed in the detailed mode being a superset of corresponding game data displayed for the same game in the overview mode, and the available games for which game data is displayed in the overview mode being a subset of the available games for which game data is displayed in the detailed mode.

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25 24. A method as claimed in claim 23 which includes a further step of categorising the number of available casino games playable by the player into a number of different game categories.

30 25. A method as claimed in claim 24 in which any one of the casino games is selectively categorised into a plurality of different game categories.

26. A method as claimed in either one of claims 24 or 25 that includes a step of sorting displayed game data by game category.

5        27. A method as claimed in any one of claims 24 to 26 in which the game data in the detailed mode is displayed according to a greater number of game categories than in the overview mode.

10      28. A method as claimed in any one of claims 24 to 27 in which the game data in the overview mode is displayed according to at least the categories of games that are preferred by the player, games that are recommended to the player for play, and games that are new to the online casino.

15      29. A method as claimed in any one of claims 24 to 28 in which the game data in the detailed mode is displayed by means of at least the categories of jackpot games offered by the online casino, table games offered by the online casino, video poker games offered by the online casino, slot games offered by the online casino, games that are preferred by the player and games that are recommended to the player for play.

20      30. A method as claimed in any one of claims 23 to 29 that includes a step of enabling the player to initiate, from both the overview mode and the detailed mode, a login process to authenticate the player for play at the casino.

25      31. A method as claimed in any one of claims 23 to 30 that includes a step of enabling the player to selectively switch the display of game data from the overview mode to the detailed mode and from the detailed mode to the overview mode.

30      32. A method as claimed in any one of claims 23 to 31 that includes a step of including in the game data displayed for any game in the overview mode at least one attribute of the game.

35      33. A method as claimed in claim 32 in which the at least one attribute is the name of the game.

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34. A method as claimed in any one of claims 23 to 33 that includes a step of including in the game data for any game displayed in the detailed mode a plurality of attributes of the game.

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35. A method as claimed in claim 34 in which the plurality of different attributes include any two or more of the name of the casino game, a size of a jackpot that can be won on the casino game, a plurality of different parameters of the casino game, a graphical representation of the game display, and a game status.

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36. A method as claimed in claim 35 in which the game status is set to be an active status when the casino game is ready for playing by the user, and an inactive status when the game is not ready for playing by the user.

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37. A method as claimed in 36 in which the game is ready for playing by the user when the casino game has previously been downloaded from a gaming server.

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38. A method as claimed in claim 24 that includes the step of displaying, in the detailed mode, a plurality of categories of games as tabbed categories.

39. A method as claimed in claim 38 in which one or more predetermined attributes of all games in any tabbed category are displayed in tabular columns in a scrollable window.

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40. A method as claimed in claim 39 in which all attributes of any particular game are displayed in an adjacent non-scrollable window when any attribute of the same game in the scrollable window is brought into focus by means of a pointing device.

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5 41. A method as claimed in claim 28 that includes the further steps of: adding any desired one or more of the available casino games to the category of casino games preferred by the player; and removing any casino game from this category when the player no longer prefers it.

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42. A method as claimed in any one of 38 to 40 in which the game categories and the casino games in each category are also displayed by means of a conventional fly-out menu display.